

MEN'S CITY SLOW PITCH SOFTBALL LEAGUE BY-LAWS – 2010

ARTICLE I – ORGANIZATION

- A. The name of this league shall be known as the MEN'S CITY SLOW PITCH SOFTBALL LEAGUE.
- B. This league shall be governed by the Recreation Athletic Director and Recreation Supervisors.
- C. This leagues games shall be played under the Official Softball Rules of the current year as prepared by the Softball Nation.

ARTICLE II – LEAGUE STRUCTURE

- A. This league consists of the following divisions: Division III (4 teams), Division IV (5 teams), Division V (6 teams) and Division VI (4 teams).

ARTICLE III – SCHEDULE AND TIMES

- A. Division III, IV, V and VI teams will play a 14 game schedule. Games will begin on Monday May 17.
- B. All league and playoff games will be played at Ramblewood Fields.
- C. All games will be played as scheduled. Our facilities will be booked solid, thus not allowing for switching games.
- D. Official game times are printed on schedule. Starting times for first games will be strictly observed. All other games will start five minutes after conclusion of preceding game but not before official time as printed on schedule. Umpire will establish the official time for each game before the start of the game. Five minute forfeit time, one hour time limit.
- E. For the first game, the home team will be off field at 15 minutes before scheduled starting time. Visiting team must be off field 5 minutes before scheduled starting time.
- F. Pitcher gets one warm up pitch between innings.
- G. No infield between innings.
- H. A game may end after 2 ½ innings or 3 innings if a team is 20 runs ahead, or after 3 ½ innings or 4 innings if a team is ahead by 15 runs, or 4 ½ innings or 5 innings if a team is 10 runs ahead.
- I. Each batter will use a 3-2 count. The second foul ball after strike one will be an out.

ARTICLE IV – POLICY ON POSTPONED GAMES

- A. Decisions on postponements are usually not made until 4:00p.m. All postponements made between 4:00p.m. and 5:00p.m. are reported to local radio stations. Softball information line is 434-2139.
- B. Whenever in doubt, report to the park.
- C. Postponed games will be played on Wednesday nights.

ARTICLE V – PLAYER & TEAM ELIGIBILITY

- A. Minimum of 15 players and maximum of 25 players on team rosters.
- B. Players on Divisions III, IV, V and VI rosters must work (full time) for sponsoring business or be a member of sponsoring club, church or live in the City of Harrisonburg. (The Athletic Director will make the final decision in determining residential requirements.) EXCEPTION TO ARTICLE V-B: Each team will be allowed ten (10) FREE AGENTS; meaning that each team will be allowed to pick up eight players, regardless of address to be placed on the roster. Fee for free agents is \$25.00 for Division III, IV, V and VI teams. Once a free agent is placed on the roster and the season has begun, it cannot be replaced with another name.
- C. City residents shall be defined as any person having residency in the City of Harrisonburg and paying City Personal Property Taxes and purchasing City Auto Decal. County of Rockingham residents shall be defined in the same manner.
- D. Any team or sponsor that knowingly violates the intent of residency rules will be prevented from playing (sponsoring a team) in the league for a period of one year.
- E. Any team with ineligible players shall forfeit all wins from the time these names were placed on roster until they are removed.
- F. A college student must be a resident of the City unless listed on roster as a free agent.
- G. Providing league play has started, a city resident on team roster moving to a county address is eligible to play during the 2008 season.
- H. No player is eligible if he has not attained the age of 17 before May 1 of current year. Age requirement does not apply to full-time employees of sponsoring firm or student who has completed high school.
- I. Players may be added to roster through June 18 if they meet eligibility requirement. NO PLAYER MAY BE ADDED TO TEAM ROSTER AFTER JUNE 18.
- J. Teams must have their roster and contracts in before playing their first game. Failure to do so could result in forfeit.
- K. Players may not play in more than one division on the City Men's Softball League. They may play in the Mixed Softball League or any other organization's softball league.

ARTICLE VI – PLAYER AND TEAM REQUIREMENTS

- A. The franchise fee is \$300.00 for Division III, IV, V and VI. Checks must be from sponsoring firm or organization and made payable to the Harrisonburg Department of Parks and Recreation. Fee includes: umpires, balls and trophies (including playoff games).
- B. Uniform jerseys will be worn by each player while participating in all league games.
- C. A team may start or continue a game with 9 players.
- D. Division III, IV, V and VI teams will play under a two (2) home run rule.
- E. Home team shall be the last name of team appearing on schedule.
- F. Home team scorebook is the official scorebook in each game.
- G. Only authorized personnel allowed in bench area.

ARTICLE VII – UMPIRE AND DEPARTMENT DUTIES

- A. One new ball will be issued each game. The home team will keep this ball and use it for the second ball of their next game. All balls will be issued by the umpire. Official game ball will be a yellow Trump Laser 44 COR, 400 compression, or comparable ball.
- B. Bat – stamped BPF 1.20 or less.
- C. The Recreation Department or the Umpire will decide if the field is in condition for play.
- D. Metal cleats are not allowed.

ARTICLE VIII – CONDUCT AND FOREFEITS

- A. TEAMS ARE REQUIRED TO CONDUCT ALL THEIR RELATIONS WITH OTHER TEAMS AND THE GAME OFFICIALS IN A SPIRIT OF GOOD SPORTSMANSHIP.
- B. NO PROFANITY OR MISCONDUCT WILL TAKE PLACE ON OR AROUND THE PLAYING FIELD DURING A GAME, BEFORE OR AFTER A GAME. IF PROFANITY OR MISCONDUCT OF ANY PLAYER OCCURES, THIS PLAYER WILL BE EJECTED FROM THE GAME AND COULD BE SUSPENDED FROM LEAGUE PLAY. IF SECOND OFFENSE OCCURES ON THE SAME PLAYER, THIS PLAYER WILL BE SUSPENDED FOR THE ENTIRE SEASON AND HIS TEAM WILL LOSE THIS GAME BY FORFEIT.
- C. TWO FORFEITS, FOR ANY REASON, MAY DISQUALIFY A TEAM FROM THE LEAGUE AT THE TIME OF THE SECOND FORFEIT. THIS DISQUALIFICATION MAY BE FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE SEASON AND MAY ALSO INCLUDE A FORFEITURE OF THE TEAM’S FRANCHISE FEE. THE MANAGER OF THE TEAM INVOLVED, HOWEVER, MAY APPEAL THIS IN WRITING WITHIN TWENTY-FOUR HOURS TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND ATHLETIC DIRECTOR. THEY WILL REVIEW THE CASE AND MAKE THE FINAL DECISION. ANY TEAM WHICH FORFEITS OUT OF THE LEAGUE MAY NOT ENTER A TEAM THE FOLLOWING YEAR.
- D. MANAGERS MUST BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CONDUCT OF THEIR PLAYERS ON THE FIELD AT ALL TIMES.
- E. THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE LEAGUE WILL TAKE ANY ACTION THEY FEEL NECESSARY TO DISCIPLINE A PLAYER, MANAGER OR TEAM DURING THE 2004 SEASON.
- F. ANYONE EJECTED FROM A GAME MAY BE SUSPENDED FOR TWO ADDITIONAL GAMES.
- G. CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES COULD CAUSE INDEFINITE SUSPENSION FROM THE LEAGUE.
- H. CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES IS NOT ALLOWED IN THE PARKS AT ANY TIME.

ARTICLE IX – PROTESTS

- A. Procedure for protest must be followed as stated in the official Softball League Rules of current year. Formal protest must be in writing and presented to league office within twenty-four hours. A protest committee is composed of the Recreation Athletic Director and Recreation Supervisors.

ARTICLE X – PLAYOFFS AND AWARDS

- A. Playoffs may be played on any night of the week. Top six teams from the Open Division, III, IV, V and VI will play a double elimination tournament for championship of each division.
- B. Ties for playoff positions will be determined by regular season head to head competition and then by run difference.
- C. Team winning regular season championship will receive a team trophy. The team winning the playoff will have the choice of individual trophies or a team trophy. The runner-up team in the playoffs will receive a team trophy.
- D. Awards must be called into the office within 2 weeks from the last night of Playoffs.